April 17, 1968

N

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Coq d'Or Press
Route 7
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in reply to your letter of March 31 and your two letters of April 1, 1968, relating to the records of the Warren Commission.

Copies of records you requested have been mailed to you. The transcripts of executive sessions of the Commission were made available for research in accordance with our normal practice of making records of the Commission available as quickly as possible after completion of the review of the records. The review of the transcripts for declassification had been almost completed before Mr. David Wise's request for them, or we could not have made them available for research when we did. In the same way you became the first researcher to use the letters sent and the internal memoranda of the Commission.

We have made copies of all material filed under the name of Kerry W. Thornley for you. The manuscript of The Idle Warriors (Thornley Exhibit No. 2) consists of 249 pages. We have no information concerning whether this manuscript has been copyrighted. No material is filed under the names of Norman J. Callo, G. S. Shufer, "Palomino," or "Cochise" in the name files of the Commission.

Your request concerning the file relating to the autopsy of President Kennedy in your letter of July 25, 1967, was as follows: "I would like also some assurance that, with the addition of these two documents totaling four pages, I now have the entire 'autopsy' file, whatever it was originally designated by the Commission." Copies of all records in the file relating to the autopsy were furnished to you, and we informed you. There were no copies of pages of the transcripts of executive sessions of the Commission in the file. We could not undertake to notify researchers of every reference in the records of the Commission to subjects in which they are interested.

In each instance in which you have asked for records relating to names or subjects, we have furnished you copies of all available records we could readily locate in the indexed material of the Commission by using the names or subjects you supplied. We should be pleased to make the basic records of the Commission available to you in our research rooms in order that you can locate materials for yourself by systematic searching through the records. The records are too voluminous and our staff is stoo small for us to do this type of searching for private researchers.

Copies of records we have been able to locate by using the additional names you supplied will be furnished to you. No material relating to Ricardo, Richard Rudolph, or Rudolph Richard Davis besides the pages in Commission Document 984b which we sent you is filed under these names. There is no report of an interview with Jim Doyle or any information concerning the film he made filed under his name. No records relating to Loran Hall are filed under the name of Dean. No tape recording by the Miami Police Department or related records concerning a threat to kill President Kennedy is in any of the files you suggested as possible locations.

The only record of the Commission relating to the spectrographic analysis of the bullet and bullet fragments involved in the assassination of President Kennedy of which we are aware, besides the testimony with which you are familiar, is the FBI Laboratory report to Chief of Police Jesse E. Curry which relates in part to the spectrographic analysis. This report is in Commission Document 81b (pages 131-135; published in CE 2003). It is quoted in CD 5 (pages 162-165).

No records of the Commission are filed under the names of Dione Calixtas and Raul Navas, concerning whom you inquired by telephone. Nine pages of material relating to Philip Geraci III will be furnished to you. We can also furnish you a copy of the transcript of his testimony (25 pages), which is filed under his name, if you wish.

Dr. Bahmer has retired as Archivist of the Unitdd States.

Sincerely yours,

James B. Rhoads
Acting Archivist
of the United States

CC: Official File - ND
Day File - ND
1 - M. Johnson, 6W-3

MJohnson/feb